

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 6905

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

C O R R E C T E D COPY (FOR PARA #3)

E.O. 116652 GDS

TAGS: XM CI

SUBJECT: CHILEAN HUMAN RIGHTS

REF: SANTIAGO 3430

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ROGERS

1. REF REFTEL'S PARA 3 I DO NOT SEE FRASER'S SUPPORT FOR MY HUMAN RIGHTS STATEMENT ASSUGGESTING ANY DILUTION OF HIS CONCERN. INSTEAD, I THINK HE WAS PLEASED THAT WE WERE ABLE TO MOVE THE MULTILATERAL CONSIDERATION OF THE QUESTION A NOTCH FORWARD, BY INSURING THAT THE COMMISSION'S REPORT NOT BE PASSED BY IN SILENCE, AND BY SPEAKING OUT OURSELVES ON THE MATTER. THIS, COUPLED WITH THE FACT THAT, WITH HIM AND HIS STAFF CHEERING US ON, WE NEGOTIATED A FIRMER FINAL RESOLUTION THAN THE COSTA RICANS ORIGINALLY PUT FORWARD, EXPLAINS HIS POSITION.

2. THE MODERATE AND FORTHCOMING DEMANOR OF THE CHILEAN DELEGATION, AND THE EXTENDED CORRIDOR CONVERSATION WHICH SERGIO DIAZ HAD WITH FRASER, ALSO HELPED CONSIDERABLY. DIAZ PROMISED REAL CHANGE SOON.

3. IN SHORT -- THE CHILEANS AND THE USG-- MADE SOME
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PROGRESS WITH FRASER. THIS IS TO BE EXPECTED BECAUSE

FRASER IS A BASICALLY DECENT AND REASONABLE MAN, AND IS CONSIDERABLY MORE INTERESTED IN SEEING IMPROVEMENT IN HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE THAN IN PERSONAL POSTURING. HE THINKS, RIGHTLY, THAT THE USG HAS MOVED IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION BY SEPAKING OUT FOR THE OAS COMISSSION. HE REGARDS THE COMMISSION AS AN IMPORTANT INSTRUMENT FOR CONSTRUCTIVE CHANGE, IN CHILE AND ELSEWHERE. AND HE THINKS--OR THOUGHT-- THAT THE CHILEANS WERE SINCERE IN THEIR PROMISES OF IMPROVEMENT.

4. BUT HOPES MAY NOW BE DASHED BY THE LATEST REPORTING OF REPRESSION OUT OF SANTIAGO. IF SO, IT WILL BE VERY DIFFICULT TO BUILD UP ANY SENSE OF CONFIDENCE WITH FRASER THE NEXT TIME.

5. BY REPEATING THIS CABLE TO WASHINGTON, I AM ASKING AMBASSADOR RYAN TO CONSIDER SAYING AS MUCH TO TRUCCO NEXT TIME HE SEES HIM.

6. SERGIO DIAZ, AT MY SUGGESTION, SPENT SOME TIME WITH FRASER DURING THE MEETING. CARVAJAL TALKED WITH HIM BRIEFLY, BOTH PROMISED THAT THE NEW REGIME AT THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE WOULD GENERATE REAL PROGRESS ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS FRONT. IN REPLY TO BOTH, FRASER SAID, "I AM PLEASED TO HEAR ALL THIS. MY COMMITTEE HAS BEEN PUBLISHING A LOT OF BAD NEWS ABOUT SOME GOOD NEWS ABOUT CHILE." THE POINT OF COURSE, IS THAT WE MADE SOME REAL PROGRESS WITH FRASER. BUT IF CHPLE FAILS TO LIVE UP TO THE PROMISES WHICH THE CHILEANS HAVE MADE TO FRASER, THEN IT WILL BE EVER SO MUCH MORE DIFFICULT TO CONVINCE HIM AND THE OTHERS IN CONGRESS CONCERNED WITH THE QUESTION THAT THERE IS ANY HOPE FOR THIS REGIME.

7. GEORGE LISTER WILL PREPARE A FULL REPORT FOR YOU ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE AT THE OASGA, INCLUDING THE DIAZ AND CARVAJAL CONVERSATIONS WITH FRASER.
HODGSON

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